

TORRANCE GROWING AT RATE OF 1000 NEW RESIDENTS EVERY MONTH

150,000 Population Expected

There are 1000 new residents moving to Torrance every month. In 1940, there were only 9950 people living here. By 1950, that figure jumped to 22,200. A special census in 1952 showed 31,800 people in Torrance; 1953 brought the figure up to 45,000. By now, there are an estimated 65,000 people living here. A special census in the fall is expected to confirm this conservative figure.

Why Coming Here?

What is it that is bringing people to Torrance in such droves? "It's a combination of industry and living," City Manager George Stevens explained. "A lot of industrial cities are not nice to live in. But Torrance is. It is an attractive town and it has been an excellent climate—no extremes of heat or cold. We have absolute comfort here—in other cities people are either wiping their eyes or suffering from the heat during the summer."

"Our growth here is so phenomenal," he exclaimed, "that when I talk about it in other cities and States people think I'm boasting!"

Expects 150,000

But the facts tell the story, and on the basis of these facts Stevens figures that Torrance

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New Office Erected By Brick Firm

Higgins Brick Co., suppliers of brick to the Torrance area for almost 30 years, have recently expanded their facilities to include an ultra-modern business office located across 174th st., from the yard itself.

The new office provides additional sales facilities as well as space for more business equipment, according to Albert Larson, office manager for the firm.

The brick yard, started in 1927 by James R. Higgins, is now a corporation, run by Mrs. Mamie Higgins and her sons, James R. Jr., and Walter. From the original yard, located at

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Plant Plays Vital Part In Economy

After 43 years of growth and expansion, the Torrance plant of the National Supply Company is justly proud of its position as the pioneer industry of Torrance. In a sense, the firm is the industrial corner-stone of this large and growing city and a vital part in its economy.

The giant factory, largest completely integrated machinery manufacturing plant in the West, occupies a unique position in manufacturing organizations in that it has facilities for making its own steel and completely processes the ingots and castings, from the electric furnaces to the multitude of finished and assembled products.

Six Plants

Through the years, National has expanded its operations to the point where no, with its six widely separated plants, it is the largest manufacturer and distributor of oil field equipment in the world, and the only one to make a complete drilling rig, including the tubular products that are used with it.

Basic Industries

Here at Torrance the principal product is oil field machinery and equipment. The plant is geared to the manufacture of heavy industrial machinery and to the production of maintenance and operating equipment for many basic industries such as steel, aluminum, mining and cement.

The product range also includes ordnance material, aircraft parts, forgings, castings and special machinery for many other industries.

Under the trade name "Ideal," National oil field machinery is used in every major oil producing area in the world. Its leadership in the field is recognized by every oil man in the business. To quote one of them: National builds 'em big, paints 'em blue, and they last forever."

Top Quality

National is proud of its reputation in the oil business and the recognition of top quality accorded to Ideal equipment.

New Civic Center Under Construction

City government is keeping right up with the rest of the community as far as progress and expansion are concerned. It will only be a matter of about eight months now before Torrance will be able to boast a new and ultra-modern civic center.

Torrance residents who made this step possible last year by passing a number of bond issues, will be able to make use of their new city hall, swimming pool, and police station in eight months, when these are expected to be completed.

The civic center, now located in downtown Torrance, will then shift to Torrance blvd. and Madrona, where the new buildings are being constructed.

The new civic center is said to be the geographical center of Torrance.

CITY HALL

"The new city hall will serve very nicely for a population of 100,000 people. It's been so designed that we can expand by building upward and outward where necessary," City Manager George Stevens commented.

The main difference be-

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Southwest Savings Tells Of Growth

In keeping with the policy of reporting to the public from time to time concerning its progress and growth, the Southwest Savings and Loan Association, Torrance Branch, 1439 Marcelina Avenue, Torrance, has recently made public the following facts and figures as of July 31, 1955, after the local office has been open for business for only 16 months.

Loans Made

As of July 31, 1955, Eldon J. Bowen, manager, announces that total assets of the Torrance office only, total \$6,972,827.59. The local institution in revealing its astounding growth, further disclosed that investors now number over 1,100, and also that borrowers upon first trust deed real estate loans now also total over 1000.

Bowen states that total loans made during the past 16 months in the Torrance office amounts to a healthy \$4,033,610.00.

Meanwhile, in the period from January 1, 1955 to July 31, 1955,

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Important Industries Locate Here

A number of large and well known industries are presently locating in Torrance. Among them are Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, which is building a \$43 million plant at Hawthorne and Del Amo; Universal Enterprises, 4300 W. 190th st., a \$450,000 paint manufacturing plant; and Bethlehem Steel, 190th st., near Arlington, \$4 million plant.

Unprecedented Pace

Building activity in Torrance is continuing at an unprecedented pace with every indication being that it will continue like that for quite some time to come.

These are the conclusions of John Russell, superintendent of the Torrance building department, who pointed out that

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Early Origin Of Utility Firm Told

A Spanish land grant to Juan Jose Dominguez way back in 1790 might almost be called the first official document of the Dominguez Water Corp.

Today's modern utility corporation started out to supply irrigation water to the agricultural land of the Dominguez estate. Before many years had passed, the wells were providing both irrigation and drinking water to all the neighbors.

Chartered

The Dominguez Water Co. was formed in 1911, with a charter of incorporation being granted to the firm in 1937. Currently serving an area of 26 square miles, the firm's metered subscribers now number over 12,000.

An average daily load of 15 million gallons of water passes through the mains, with a peak summer load of 30 million gallons daily. Residential consumers and major industrial users each account for about half the total payment.

Soft Water

The company's subscribers enjoy truly soft water, as all water pumped by the firm comes from deep wells. The firm has a supply of Colorado River water available in case of emergency through its connections with the West Basin Water District.

Two storage tanks with a combined capacity of 25 million gallons, one located in West Torrance, the other atop Dominguez Hill, are connected with the company's 150 miles of pipeline. The pumping plant is

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DOUGLAS TO HIRE 2000 NEW WORKERS

The need for an additional 2000 new workers at the Torrance Douglas plant was forecast this week, as officials of the firm announced plans to accelerate production of Navy F4D interceptors.

Recently designated one of the 10 most significant plants of the year, Torrance

Douglas has developed one of the most modern production facilities in the nation's defense program. The Torrance location, an integral part of the El Segundo Division of Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc., has over 1 1/2 million square feet of production floor space.

The home of the Navy's F4D Skyray, holder of the world 3-kilometer speed record, employs nearly 10,000 residents of Torrance and vicinity, and brings to the community a payroll of \$3 million a week. Additional plans and accelerated production to get the F4D interceptor to the fleet to meet any emergency forecasts the need of another 2000 new workers within the next 12 months.

The Torrance facility is one of the newest aircraft manufacturing plants in the world. There are special duty machines in operation at Torrance found nowhere else in the industry and new processes developed in this plant have improved techniques and made it possible to build better aircraft.

Douglas Torrance is a pleasant place in which to work. Clean and orderly with modern lighting. In this well ventilated plant, the men and women of Torrance can lunch at any one of the 12 dining rooms. Hot or cold meals are served from nationally famous mobile cafeteria lines, the first in the country. No one need walk more than a few feet from his work to the dining room. Everyone is served in 10 minutes and all have sufficient time to eat in comfort and relax during lunch periods.

A resident recreation director supervises softball, basketball, golf, bowling, archery and fencing. These teams compete with the teams of other industries and have brought home to Torrance numerous trophies in the three short years they have been active. The Torrance Rod and Gun Club is one of the biggest sportsman's groups in the area.

Health is an important item for all. At the Torrance location

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Longren to Build New Giant Plant

Plans to build six new industrial buildings on a ten-acre tract at the Torrance Airport were disclosed this week by the management of Longren Aircraft Co.

First of the six buildings, which will add 120,000 square feet of working area to existing facilities, will begin construction in the very near future and will be ready for occupancy before the first of next year, according to Tom May, a Longren executive.

The main plant of the firm is located on Carson street, near Crenshaw boulevard, with additional factory space leased in the Ideco company plant on Carson street.

Personnel

Longren has witnessed spectacular growth in the past year, May said. Since August, 1954, the personnel has been more than doubled. The company now employs 423 persons, compared with 180 at this time last year.

The executive pointed out that more than \$140,000 has been invested in new equipment and tools, and that the pay roll has increased from \$75,000 per month to \$200,000 per month. He added that the

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Harvey Creates Jobs Here

When the expansion program at Harvey Aluminum, 19200 South Western avenue, is completed sometime toward the end of the year, new employment opportunities will become available to the many skilled production personnel, technicians, and engineers residing in the Harbor Area.

So basic is Harvey's production output in relation to the labor scene, that for every person the company employs, 60 others are employed in outside industry.

In 1946, Harvey consolidated the three plants into headquarters, at 19200 South Western avenue, Torrance. Today, the Harvey Machine co., and the Harvey Aluminum division, employ more than 2500 persons and ship material all over the country.

Key To Growth

The principal factor in the company's rise over the years to national recognition has been the technical and creative abilities of its staff members to turn out high production at low cost. The firm has worked continuously to develop better designs, new alloys, and better and more economical methods of manufacture.

In the development and production of automatic screw machine products, Harvey has carved out a lengthy and successful achievement record. Possessing facilities for every kind of machining and processing operation, Harvey is active in every phase of production . . . engineering, research, production of raw material, quality control of automatic screw machine operations, secondary

operations and related work, and the final assembly of products ready for market. Largest of Harvey's present facilities are the aluminum division buildings, where the Southern California company produces aluminum extrusions in all alloys and all sizes, special extrusions, press forgings, hollow sections, structural, rod and bar, forging stock, pipe, tubes, impact extrusions, and related products. These aluminum wrought products are used

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MOLTEN STEEL . . . The end of the pouring of a heat of steel from one of the open hearth furnaces at the Torrance Works of Columbia-Geneva Steel Division of United States Steel Corporation. The effervescent steel has filled the ladle and slag is overflowing into the pots below. Large hooks extending from an overhead crane will pick up the ladle and carry it to the ingot molds. Through a nozzle in the bottom of the ladle, the molten metal will be poured into the molds. After cooling, the ingots will be stripped of their molds and sent to the plant's rolling mills for further processing.

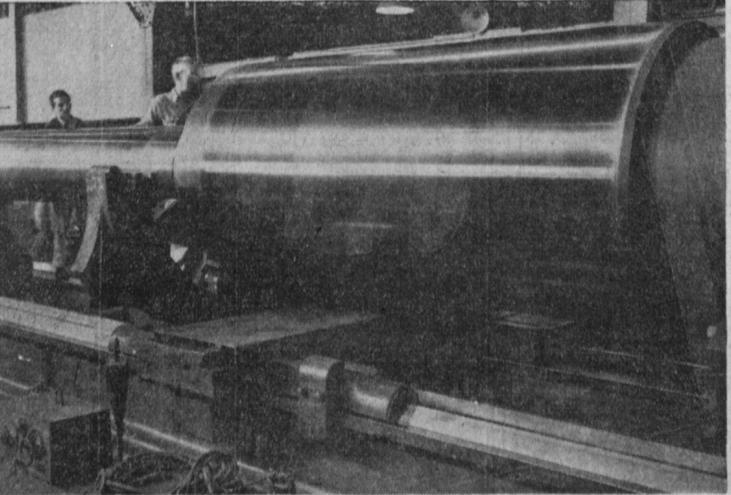
Steel Factory Dates Back To Founding Of Torrance

United States Steel's basic steel producer in Southern California is the Torrance Works of the Columbia-Geneva Steel Division which produces semi-finished steel, structural shapes, tie plates, hot rolled bars and hot-rolled strip at its 164-acre plant. Most of the mill's products are marketed in this area.

The city of Torrance has virtually grown up around the U.S. Steel Torrance Works. Founded in 1916 as the Llewellyn Iron Works at the request of Jared Sidney Torrance, founder of the city, the mill's first heat of steel was tapped from the plant's original 40-ton hearth furnace in December of that year. Since then, the original 40-ton open hearth has

been replaced with four 60-ton open hearth furnaces which have produced millions of tons of steel for world-wide use in peace and three wars. This year marks the 25th anniversary of U. S. Steel in Torrance. In 1930, U. S. Steel acquired all properties of the Columbia Steel Corporation

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PRECISION JOB . . . This turning operation on an 80,000 pound hydraulic press ram will result in a near-mirror precision finish for one of National's customers. National Supply Co.,

established here 43 years ago, is Torrance's pioneer industry. The firm specializes in oil field and drilling equipment, and is the largest completely integrated plant in the West.

ANNUAL INDUSTRY PAYROLL HITS \$100 MILLION